DC/MARVEL

ACCESS

MARVEL COMICS

PART ONE OF FOUR

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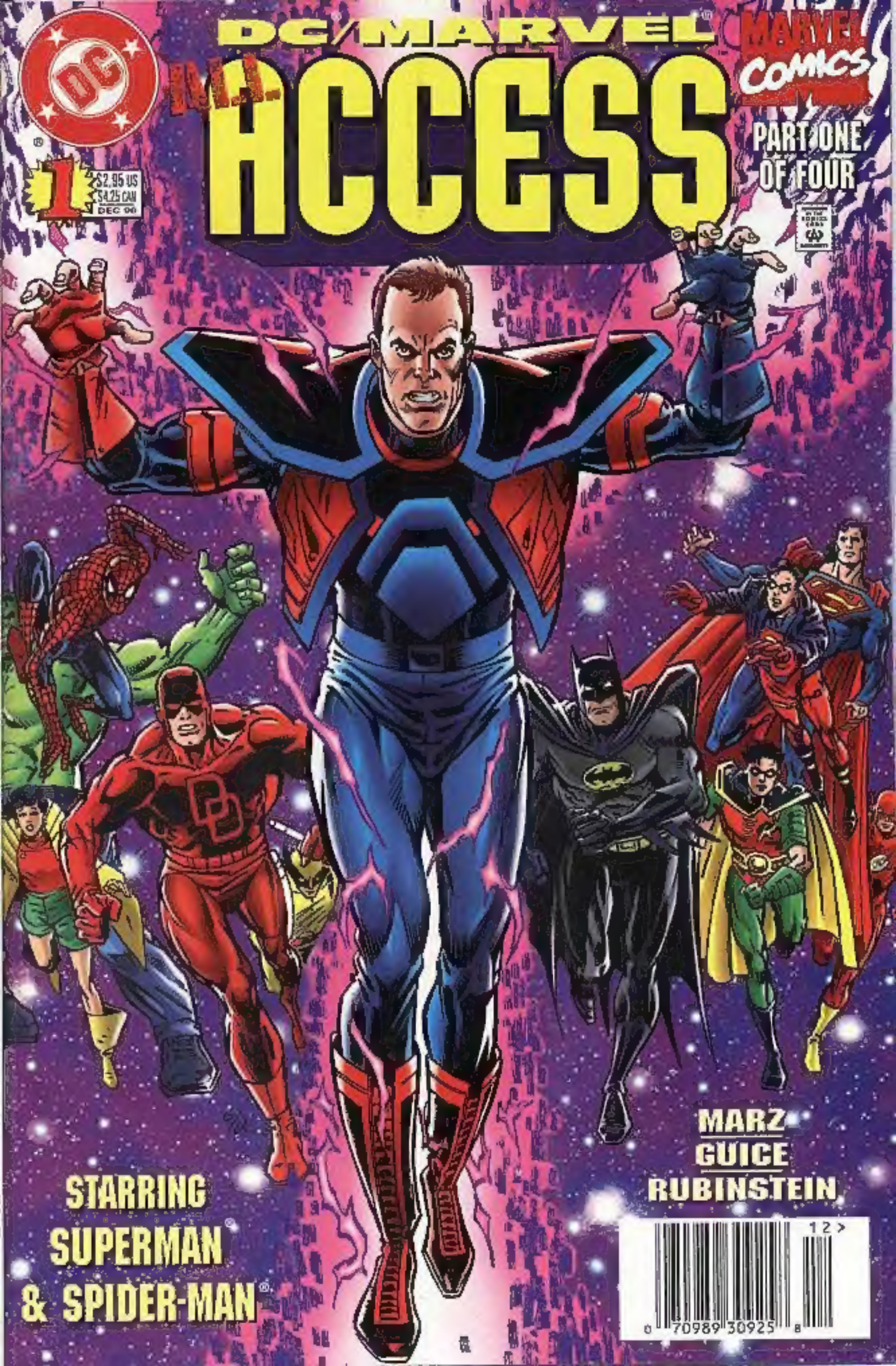

STARRING SUPERMAN® & SPIDER-MAN®

MARZ
GUICE
RUBINSTEIN

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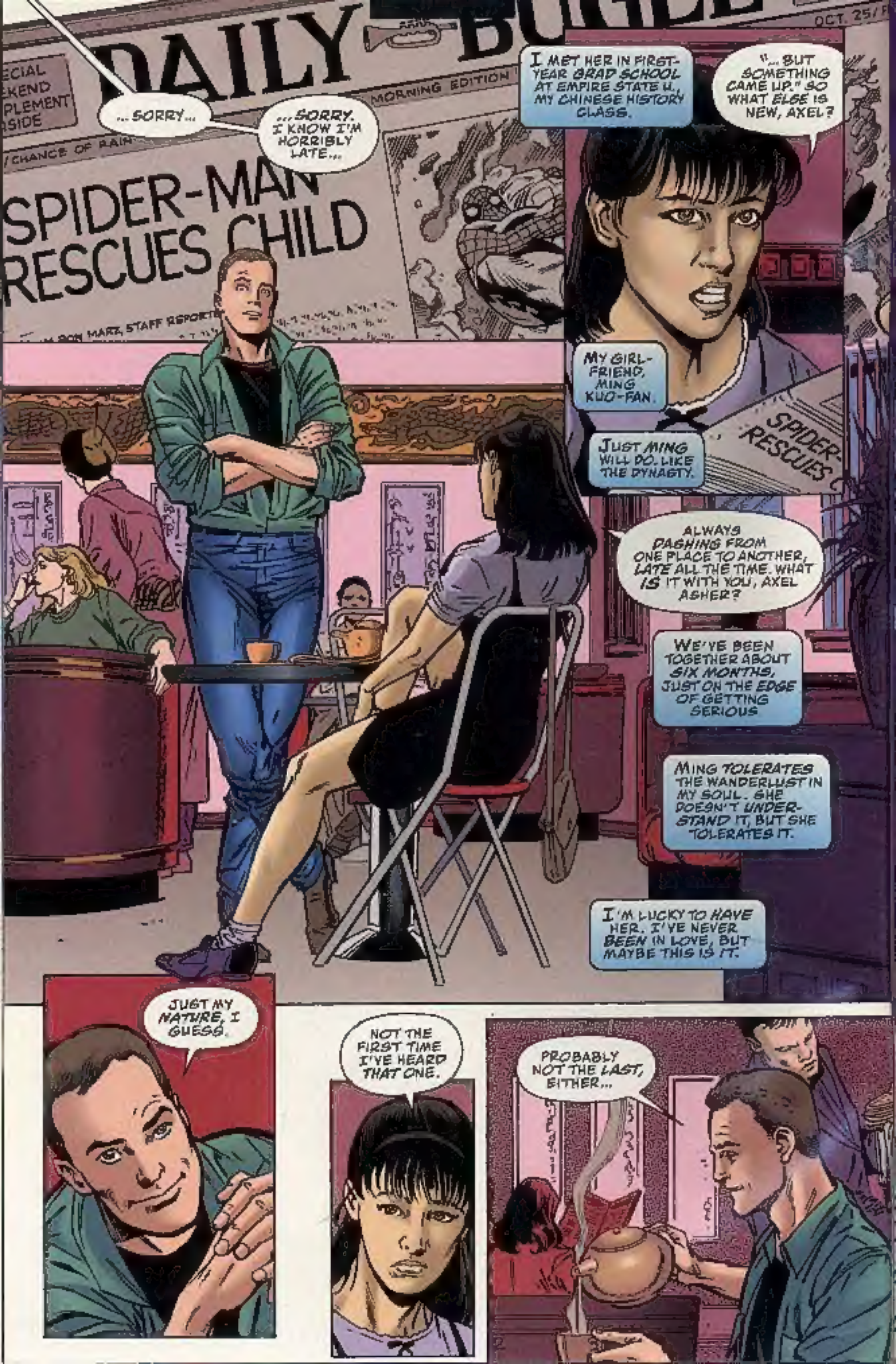

DAILY BUGLE
OCT. 25/
MORNING EDITION
CHANCE OF RAIN
SPIDER-MAN RESCUES CHILD
...SORRY...
...SORRY. I KNOW I'M HORRIBLY LATE...
I MET HER IN FIRST-YEAR GRAD SCHOOL AT EMPIRE STATE U. MY CHINESE HISTORY CLASS.
"...BUT SOMETHING CAME UP." SO WHAT ELSE IS NEW, AXEL?
MY GIRL-FRIEND, MING KUO-FAN.
JUST MING WILL DO. LIKE THE DYNASTY.
ALWAYS DASHING FROM ONE PLACE TO ANOTHER, LATE ALL THE TIME. WHAT IS IT WITH YOU, AXEL ASHER?
WE'VE BEEN TOGETHER ABOUT SIX MONTHS, JUST ON THE EDGE OF GETTING SERIOUS
MING TOLERATES THE WANDERLUST IN MY SOUL. SHE DOESN'T UNDER-STAND IT, BUT SHE TOLERATES IT.
I'M LUCKY TO HAVE HER. I'VE NEVER BEEN IN LOVE, BUT MAYBE THIS IS IT.
JUST MY NATURE, I GUESS.
NOT THE FIRST TIME I'VE HEARD THAT ONE.
PROBABLY NOT THE LAST, EITHER...

...BUT AT LEAST I NEVER FORGET MY MANNERS.
TEA?

IT'S ON THE HOUSE.

OF COURSE IT'S ON THE HOUSE! MY PARENTS OWN THE RESTAURANT!
BY THE WAY, MY MOM'S BEEN ASKING ABOUT YOU AGAIN. SHE WORRIES YOU'RE NOT GETTING ENOUGH TO EAT.
AGAIN?

THIS IS THE BEST CHINESE RESTAURANT IN GREENWICH VILLAGE. SHE FEEDS ME EVERY TIME I WALK THROUGH THE...
...THROUGH THE...
...DOOR...

AXEL? YOU OKAY?
WHAT IS IT?
...MY...
...HEAD...

...IT'S ...I...
...I CAN SEE THEM...
...AGGH!

THIS HAS NEVER HAPPENED BEFORE!

THE CROSSING!

RON MARZ - story
JACKSON GUICE - layouts
JOSEF RUBINSTEIN - finishes

BILL OAKLEY - letters
LEE LOUGHRIDGE - color
DIGITAL CHAMELEON - separations
CHRIS DUFFY - associate editor
MIKE CARLIN - editor

dedicated to the memory of MARK GRUENWALD

SUPERMAN created by Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

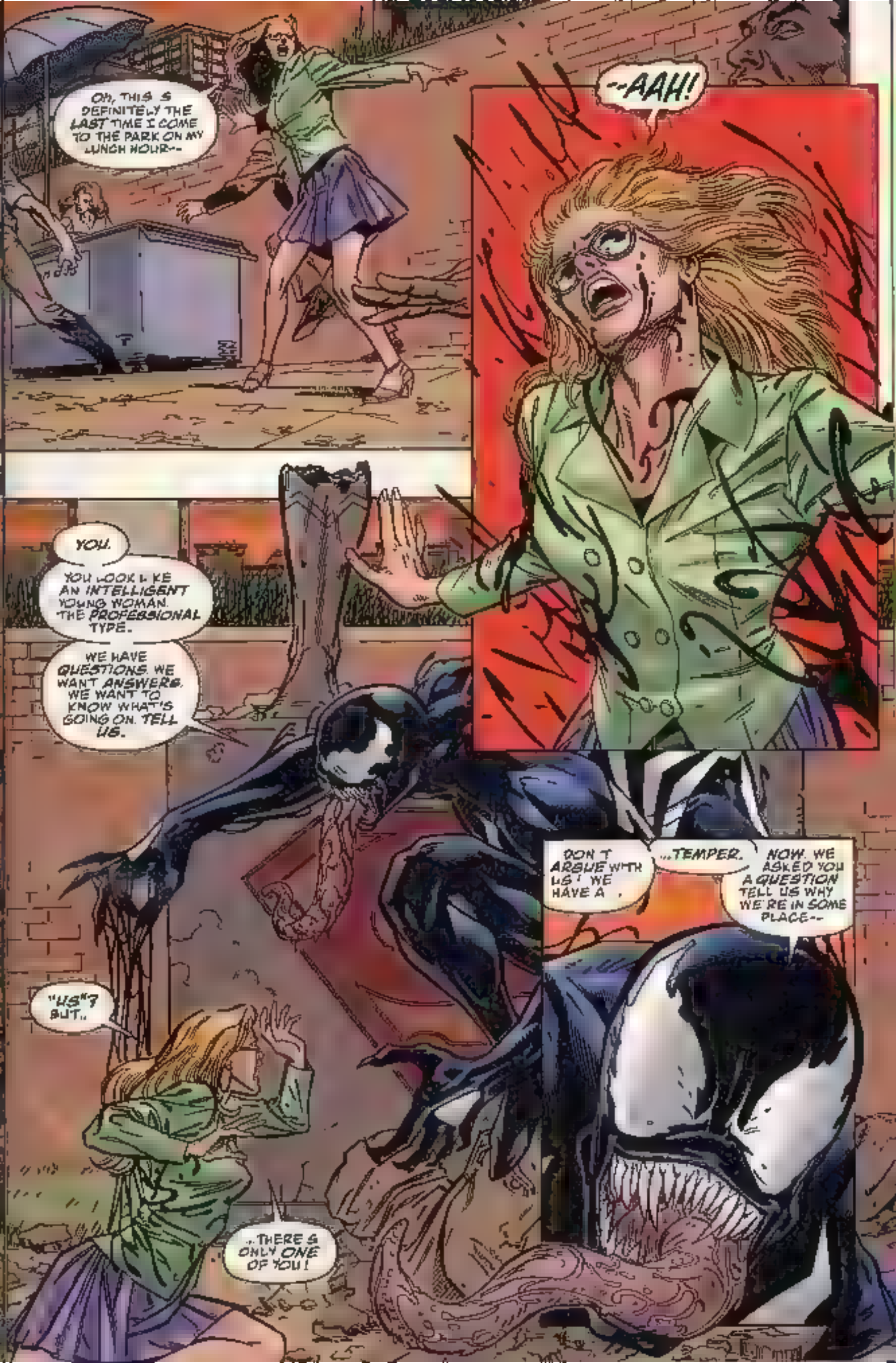
...BUT IT WAS NEITHER. AND BOTH. AN AMALGAM OF BOTH UNIVERSES WAS CREATED...
...AND I CARRIED THE KEY TO SETTING THINGS RIGHT. THE UNIVERSES WENT BACK TO NORMAL. NO ONE ELSE EVEN REMEMBERS THE AMALGAM EVER EXISTED.
ALL OF IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE OVER...
...BUT SOMETHING'S WRONG NOW.
IT'S VENOM. I'VE SEEN HIS PICTURE IN THE DAILY BUGLE. SOMEHOW HE'S IN THE WRONG UNIVERSE.
THE UNIVERSES HAVE TO STAY SEPARATED. EVEN ONE PERSON IN THE WRONG UNIVERSE MIGHT CAUSE A FISSURE IN THE FABRIC OF REALITY.
IF IT LASTS TOO LONG, THE UNIVERSES COULD START MERGING AGAIN. THE AMALGAM COULD RETURN FOREVER.
I HAVE TO...
...I HAVE TO... FIX IT...
AXEL, PLEASE...

...YOU'RE SCARING ME! WHAT JUST HAPPENED TO YOU? WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "FIX IT"?
I... I HAVE TO GO...
YOU PRACTICALLY BLACKED OUT TWO SECONDS AGO! YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE!
AXEL, SIT DOWN. I'M GOING TO CALL A DOCTOR.
NO, DON'T NEED A DOCTOR. I'LL BE FINE. I JUST...
...I REMEMBERED SOMETHING I HAVE TO DO, THAT'S ALL.
SOMETHING IMPORTANT.
AXEL, WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? YOU'RE NOT MAKING SENSE. I DON'T UNDERSTAND...
...WHAT'S HAPPENING.
MING, I'M FINE. REALLY.
THERE'S SOMETHING I HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF. SORRY, BUT IT CAN'T WAIT.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME. I'LL CALL YOU AS SOON AS I CAN.

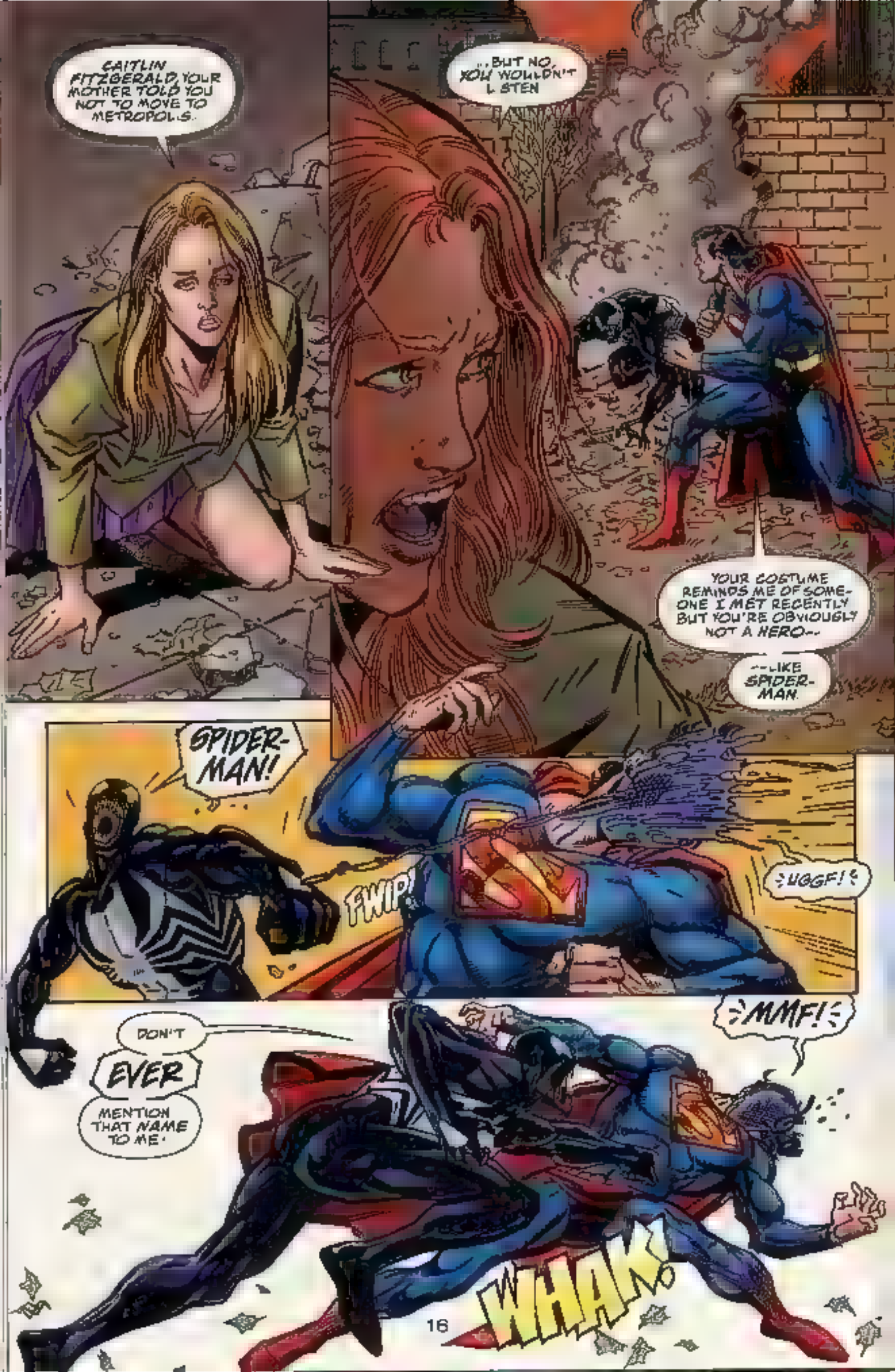
MAN, RUNNING OUT LIKE THAT'S GONNA LOSE ME SERIOUS POINTS WITH--
WAIT.
THAT BUILDING ACROSS THE STREET. THE ONE WITH THE FUNKY SKYLIGHT.
SEEMS WEIRD...
...BUT I'VE NEVER NOTICED IT BEFORE. MUST'VE ALWAYS BEEN THERE.
AND THAT GUY.
WHY'S HE LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT?
NEVER MIND, THIS IS NEW YORK. ALL SORTS OF STRANGE CHARACTERS WANDERING AROUND.
CAN'T WORRY ABOUT IT NOW.
NICE KITTY. SHARE YOUR ALLEY?
I'VE GOT A JOB TO DO...

...AND I NEED TO LOOK THE PART.
THE TWO COSMIC ENTITIES, THE TWO... "BROTHERS"... THERE ARE SHARDS OF THEM SCATTERED ACROSS THE UNIVERSES.
I'M ONE OF THOSE SHARDS, OR SO I'VE BEEN TOLD.
SOMETIMES THE SHARDS TAKE THE FORM OF DIMENSIONAL GATEWAYS. SOMETIMES THEY'RE INSIDE PEOPLE, WHICH EXPLAINS WHY I'VE HAD THIS RESTLESS SPIRIT ALL MY LIFE.
MOST OF THE TIME, THE PEOPLE NEVER BECOME AWARE OF THEIR TRUE NATURE. I DID, AND I'VE ACCEPTED EVERYTHING THAT GOES ALONG WITH IT.
IT'S MY RESPONSIBILITY TO KEEP THE UNIVERSES SEPARATE, TO PREVENT ANYTHING LIKE AMALGAM FROM EVER HAPPENING AGAIN.
GUESS YOU COULD CALL ME A KIND OF COSMIC HALL MONITOR...
...BUT I PREFER
ACCESS
I DON'T HAVE ANY REAL SUPER POWERS— I CAN'T FLY, NO X-RAY VISION.
BUT WHAT I CAN DO IS TRANSPORT FROM ONE PLACE TO ANOTHER, INCLUDING FROM THIS UNIVERSE...
DAILY CL
ENFORCER GANG TERRORIZES CITY
WHAT'S NEXT?
FOOM
FOOM
FOOM

...TO THE OTHER ONE.
I SAID...
...I WANT TO KNOW WHERE WE ARE, WHAT WE'RE DOING HERE...
...AND WHO THE HELL THIS SUPERMAN IS!
SOME KIND OF MONSTER!
RUN!
SKAKRACK!
ENTENNIAL PARK

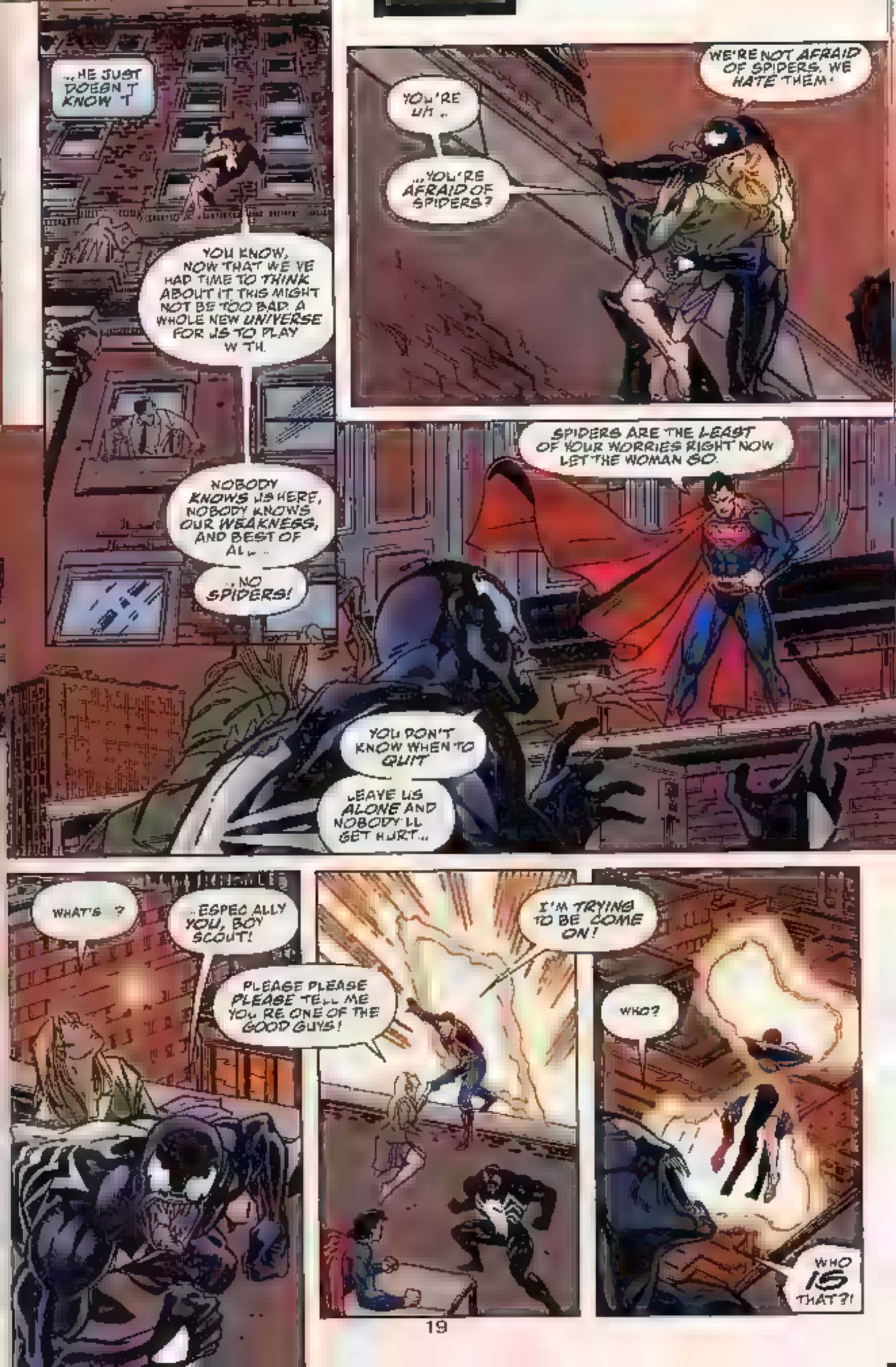

OH, THIS IS DEFINITELY THE LAST TIME I COME TO THE PARK ON MY LUNCH HOUR--
--AAH!
YOU.
YOU LOOK LIKE AN INTELLIGENT YOUNG WOMAN. THE PROFESSIONAL TYPE.
WE HAVE QUESTIONS. WE WANT ANSWERS. WE WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON. TELL US.
DON'T ARGUE WITH US! WE HAVE A
..TEMPER.
NOW. WE ASKED YOU A QUESTION. TELL US WHY WE'RE IN SOME PLACE--
"US"? BUT..
..THERE'S ONLY ONE OF YOU!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU WANT...
..PLEASE, YOU'RE SCARING ME..
OH, YEB..
..WE CAN SEE THAT!
HA HA HA... heh?
WHAT'S THAT SOUND?
SUPERMAN
NOT FROM AROUND HERE, ARE YOU? NORMALLY METROPOLIS WELCOMES OUT-OF-TOWNERS, BUT N THIS CASE--
UWFFF?!
--WE'LL MAKE AN EXCEPTION!
KRASH!

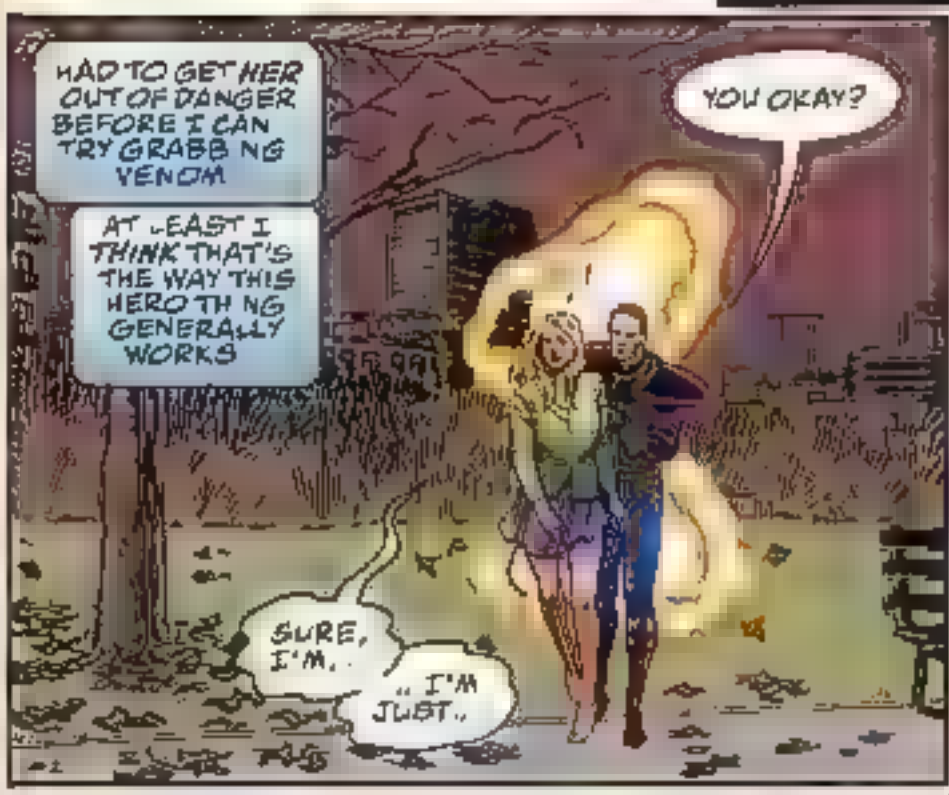

CAITLIN FITZGERALD, YOUR MOTHER TOLD YOU NOT TO MOVE TO METROPOLIS.
...BUT NO, YOU WOULDN'T LISTEN
YOUR COSTUME REMINDS ME OF SOMEONE I MET RECENTLY BUT YOU'RE OBVIOUSLY NOT A HERO--
--LIKE SPIDER-MAN.
SPIDER-MAN!
FWIP!
UGGF!
MMF!
DON'T
EVER
MENTION THAT NAME TO ME!
WHAK!

WE ARE VENOM!
KRA-CLUNK!
SUPERMAN, HUH? NOT MUCH OF A PROTECTOR IF YOU ASK US.
NOW... WHERE D'SHE GO?
FWIP!
AH!
WHY ME AGAIN?
GOING UP, SWEETIE?
WE'RE NEW 'N TOWN! WE NEED A TOUR GUIDE!
TOO LATE VENOM'S GONE...
AND I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO.

...SUPERMAN!
I'M FINE...
AND THANK GOD THE BUS WAS EMPTY.
HNF!
THIS ISN'T A PLACE FOR BYSTANDING, SON THERE'S A SERIOUS THREAT ON THE LOOSE
LIVES ARE IN DANGER
I KNOW I CAME TO HELP. I CAN FIX IT ALL
I APPRECIATE THE OFFER...
...BUT THIS BUSINESS IS BEST LEFT TO HEROES.
...OF COURSE HE DOESN'T KNOW WHO I AM. WE NEVER REALLY MET. ONLY WHEN HE WAS AMALGAMATED AS SUPER-SOLDIER
SUPERMAN NEEDS ME.
OH, WAIT...


...HE JUST DOESN'T KNOW IT
YOU KNOW, NOW THAT WE'VE HAD TIME TO THINK ABOUT IT, THIS MIGHT NOT BE TOO BAD. A WHOLE NEW UNIVERSE FOR US TO PLAY WITH.
NOBODY KNOWS US HERE, NOBODY KNOWS OUR WEAKNESS, AND BEST OF ALL...
...NO SPIDERS!
YOU'RE UH...
...YOU'RE AFRAID OF SPIDERS?
WE'RE NOT AFRAID OF SPIDERS. WE HATE THEM!
SPIDERS ARE THE LEAST OF YOUR WORRIES RIGHT NOW. LET THE WOMAN GO.
YOU DON'T KNOW WHEN TO QUIT.
LEAVE US ALONE AND NOBODY'LL GET HURT...
WHAT'S ...?
...ESPECIALLY YOU, BOY SCOUT!
PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE TELL ME YOU'RE ONE OF THE GOOD GUYS!
I'M TRYING TO BE. COME ON!
WHO?
WHO IS THAT?!

I'M NOT SURE.
...BUT I'M GLAD HE'S HERE!
WAM!
YOU THINK BRUTE FORCE IS GONNA CUT IT AGAINST US?!
WE'VE GONE TOE TO TOE WITH THE JUGGERNAUT!
I'VE GOT NEWS FOR YOU --SO HAVE--
--AAG!
SKRAKKLE


HAD TO GET HER OUT OF DANGER BEFORE I CAN TRY GRABB NG VENOM
AT LEAST I THINK THAT'S THE WAY THIS HERO TH NG GENERALLY WORKS
YOU OKAY?
SURE, I'M..
.. I'M JUST..

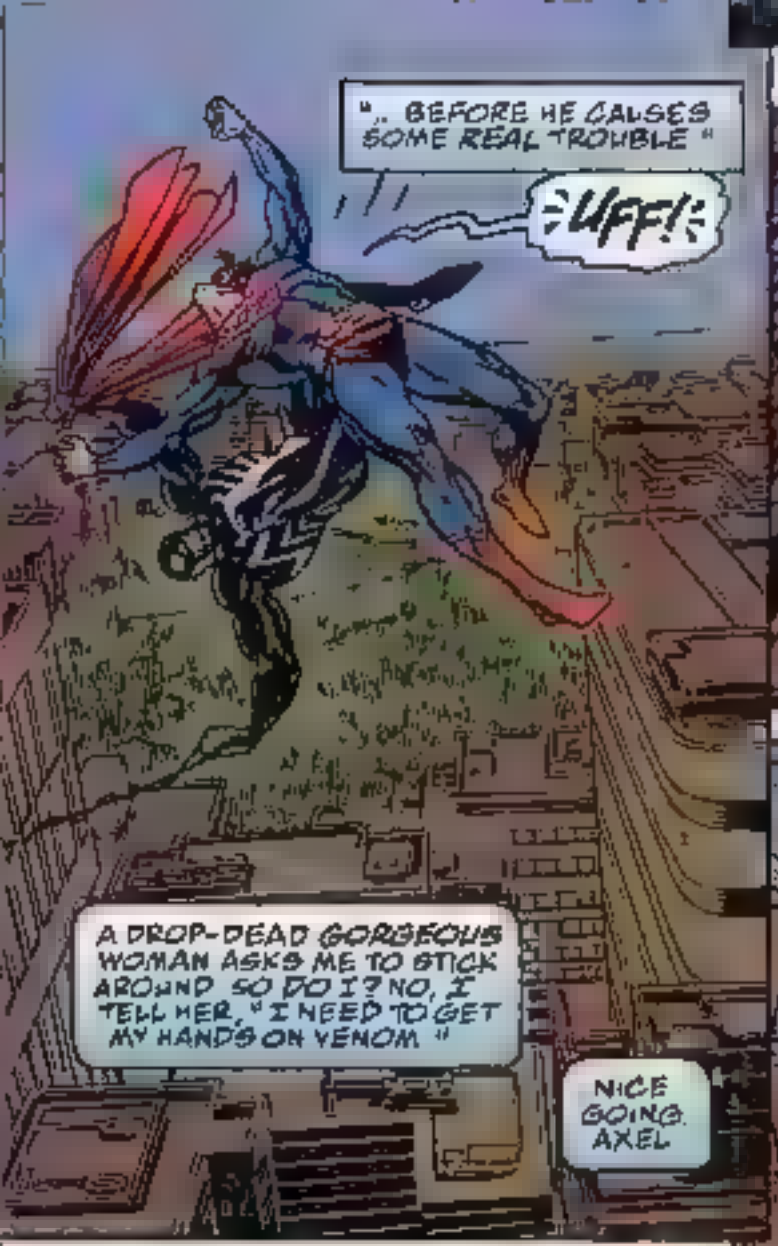
.. I'M GREAT S WHAT I AM! THAT WAS SO COOL!
THAT MONSTER COULD VE KILLED ME AND YOU JUST ZAPPED IN AND SNATCHED ME AWAY!
IT'S K ND OF MY JOB.

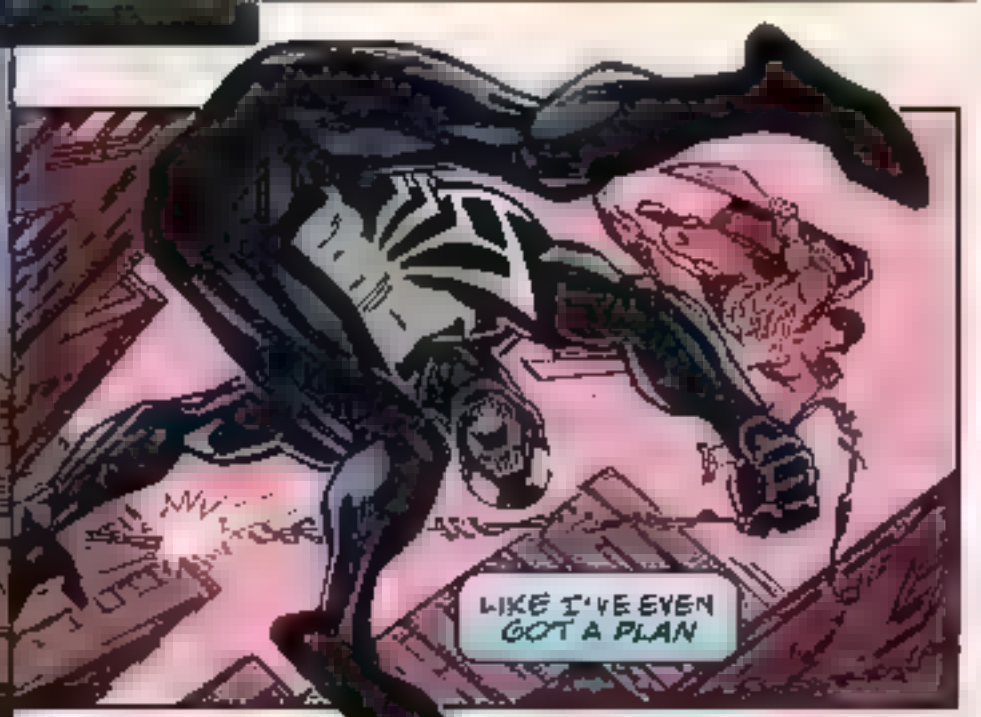
THEN THANKS FOR DOING YOUR JOB
I'M CAITLIN FITZGERALD..
... BUT MY FRIENDS CALL ME FITZ.

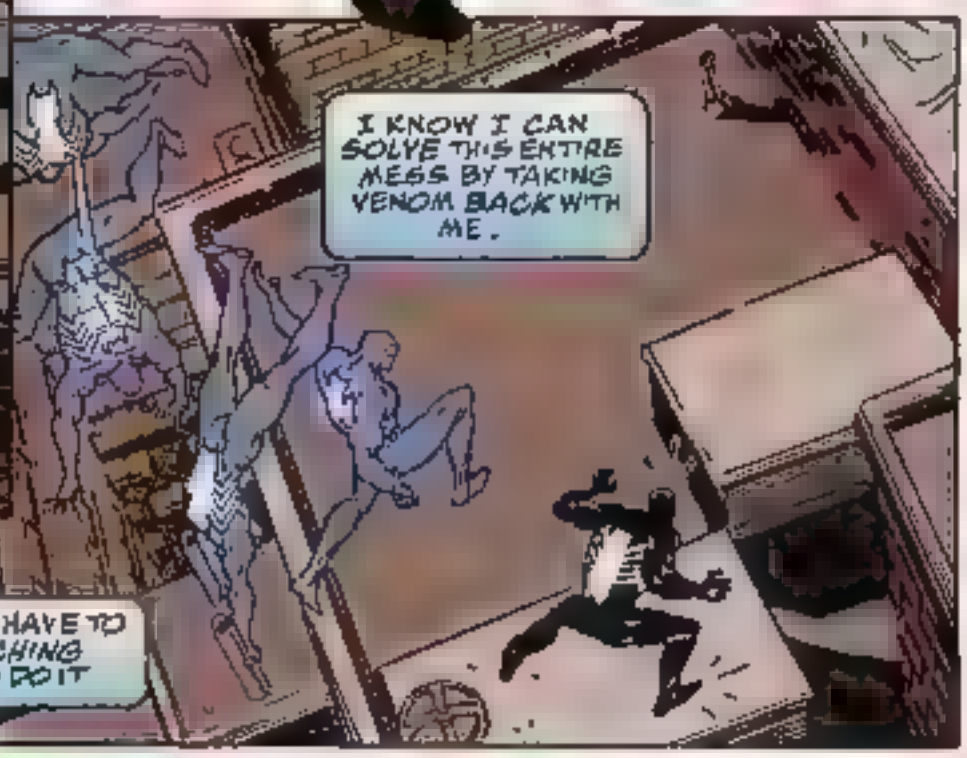
YOU'RE SURE YOU RE OKAY, um, FITZ?
I'M FINE A LITTLE SHAKY, AND I FEEL LIKE I NEED A WEEK-LONG SHOWER BUT I'LL BE OKAY

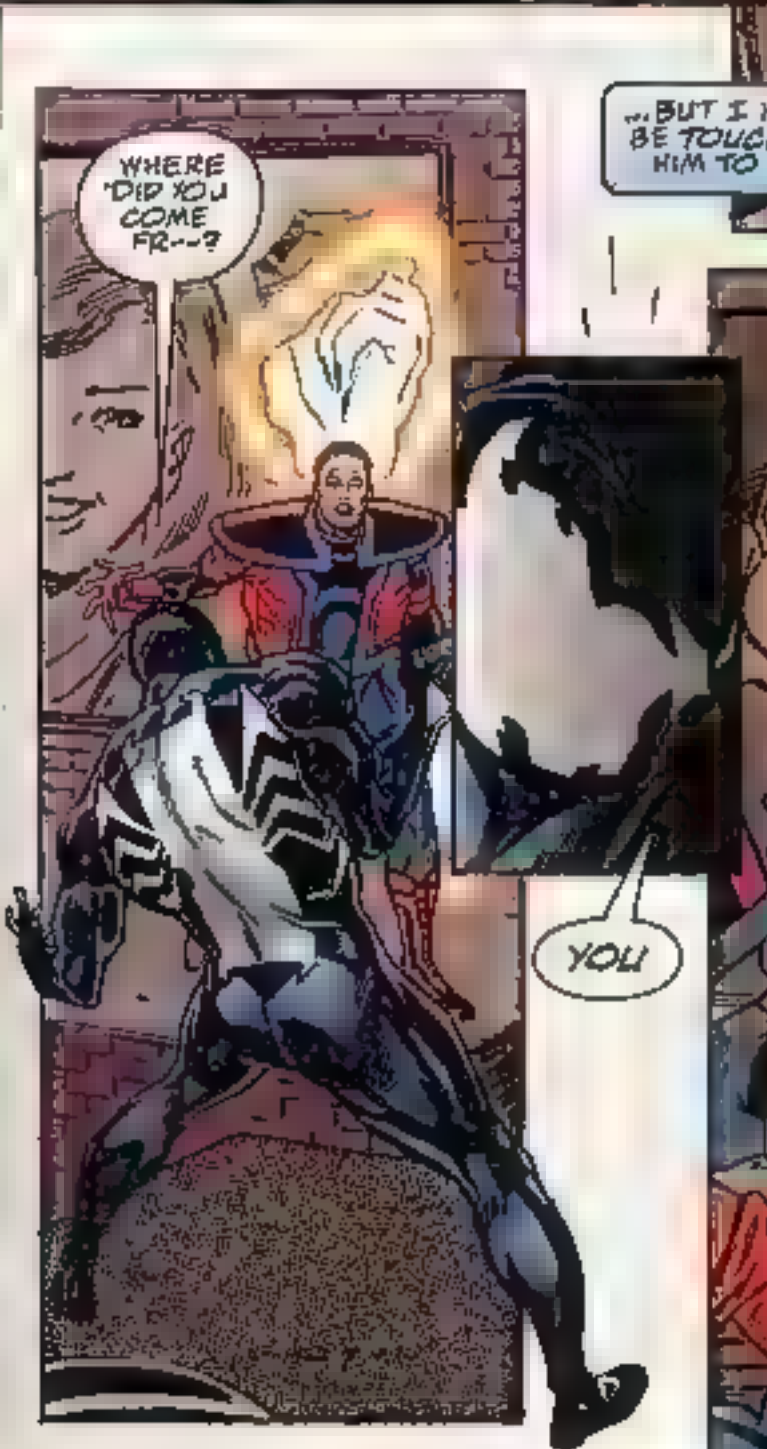
I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHO YOU ARE, AND HOW YOU DID... WHATEVER IT WAS YOU DID WHAT'S GOING ON?
WELL, FIRST OFF THE GUY WITH THE TEETH SN'T SUPPOSED TO BE HERE I HAVE TO TAKE HIM BACK TO.. THE PLACE HE BELONGS.

AND I'M BOY, WHO I AM IS A LONG STORY.
I'VE GOT TIME
WISH I DID. SORRY, BUT I NEED TO GET MY HANDS ON VENOM..

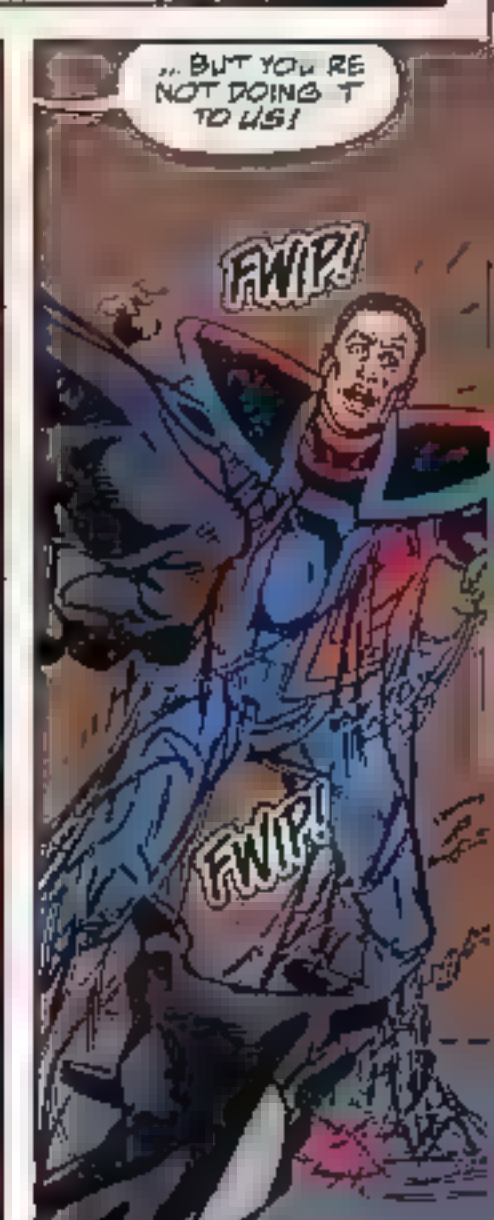

"... BEFORE HE CAUSES SOME REAL TROUBLE"
UFF!
A DROP-DEAD GORGEOUS WOMAN ASKS ME TO STICK AROUND SO DO I? NO, I TELL HER, "I NEED TO GET MY HANDS ON VENOM."
NICE GOING AXEL


LIKE I'VE EVEN GOT A PLAN


I KNOW I CAN SOLVE THIS ENTIRE MESS BY TAKING VENOM BACK WITH ME.
...BUT I HAVE TO BE TOUCHING HIM TO DO IT


WHERE DID YOU COME FR--?
YOU

THAT'S THE PART I'M NOT CRAZY ABOUT
A LITTLE CLOSER YOU AND I ARE GOING ON A TRIP.
WE DON'T KNOW HOW YOU DO THAT TH NG YOU DO.


...BUT YOU RE NOT DOING T TO US!
FWIP!
FWIP!

CAN'T MOVE
AND GETTING PUMMELED TO PUTTY ISN'T WHAT I HAD IN MIND, SO I'M EITHER DEAD...
...OR GONE
GONE!
LEAVING JUST THE TWO OF US!
NO MORE INNOCENTS AT RISK!
THOOM

KRUNK!

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT INNOCENTS ?!

WE'RE GETTING TO HATE YOU ALMOST AS MUCH AS WE DO THE SPIDER! YOU EVEN WEAR THE SAME COLORS!

WHA--?

GKK

AHHK!

HEY, MRS. BROCK..

NO

ghhk

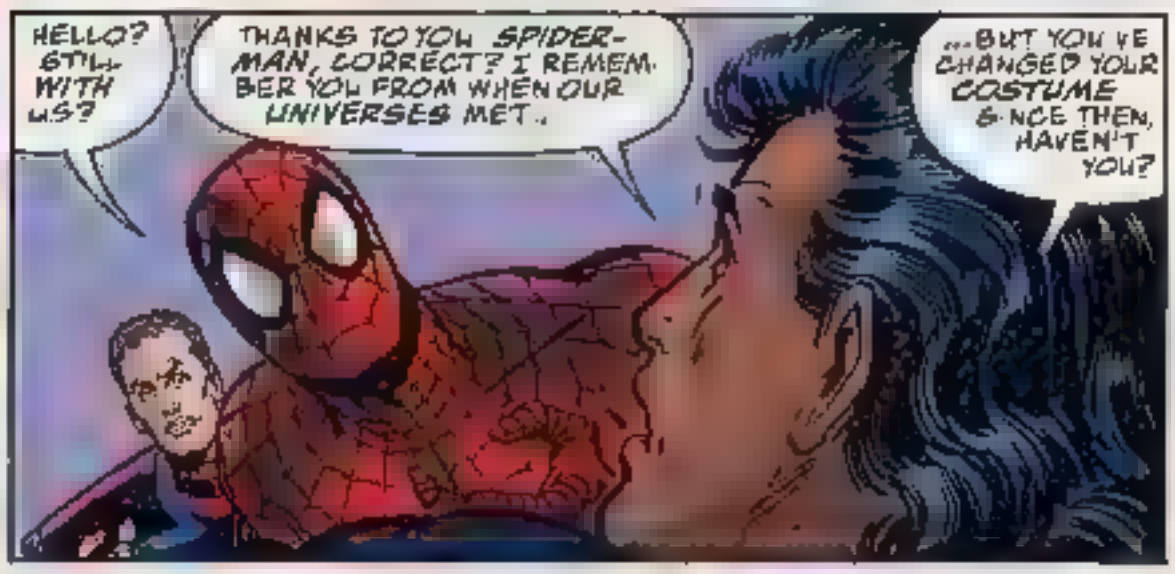
THWIP!

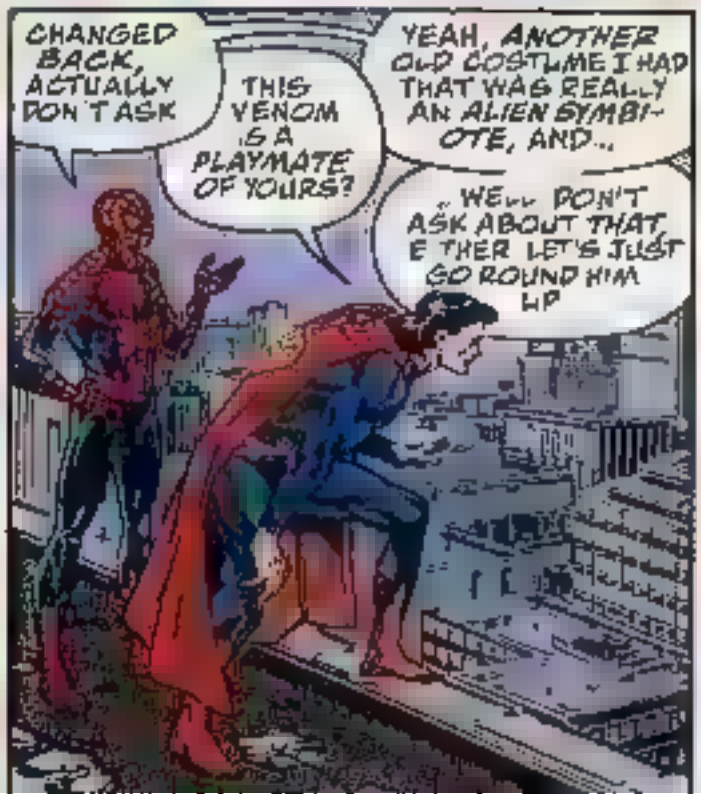
CAN EDDIE COME OUT AND PLAY?

...NO!

THE SPIDER!

¡HKK!





STAY HERE

YOU KNOW H.M. WHAT'S VENOM'S NEXT MOVE?

TRUST ME, HE'S AROUND SOMEWHERE. NOW THAT I'M HERE, VENOM WON'T STOP UNTIL HE SQUASHES ME LIKE A BUG ON A WINDOW.

IT'S LIKE THAT BETWEEN US.

I'VE GOT A FEW OF THOSE MYSELF. BUT I'VE NEVER FOUGHT ANYONE...

...OR ANYTHING...

...LIKE VENOM. THE BEST I'VE BEEN ABLE TO DO IS BATTLE HIM TO A STANDSTILL.

LET ME TELL YOU, VENOM'S A HANDFUL EVEN IF YOU'RE FAMILIAR WITH HIM.

BECK AND SONS CONSTRUCTION

BUT LUCKILY HE'S GOT AN ACHILLES HEEL. HE'S VULNERABLE TO SONIC ATTACK. IT DISRUPTS THE SYMBIOSIS BETWEEN HIM AND THE SUIT.

A SONIC GENERATOR? I MIGHT BE ABLE TO GET--

uh-oh

GEE, EDDIE, THE KID IN THE JACKET INVITED ME BECAUSE I KNEW YOU. YOU MEAN YOU'RE NOT GLAD TO SEE ME?

I'M HURT

HOW CAN YOU BE HERE?!

SKRASH!

YOU WILL BE!

EDDIE, EDDIE, EDDIE..

..YOU'LL NEED TO DO A LOT BETTER YOU KNOW HOW FAST I AM. COMPARATIVE AGILITY OF A SPIDER AND ALL THAT

THAT BLOCK AND TACKLE COULD KILL SOMEONE BELOW!

BE MY ¡gasp! GUEST! I'M A LITTLE ¡gahk! OCCUPIED!

UNFF!

SUPERMAN, WAIT! YOU HAVE TO LISTEN TO ME!

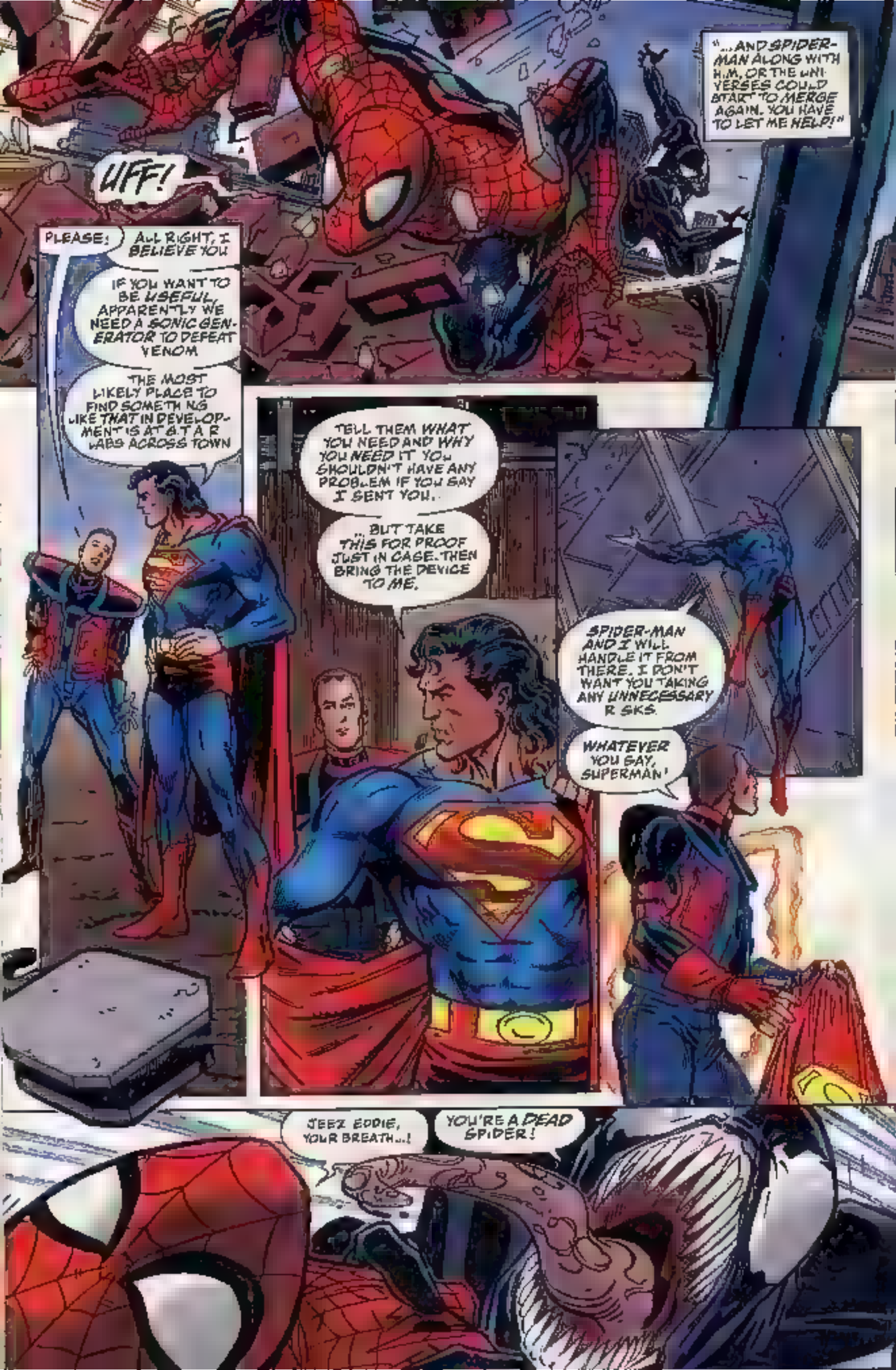
YOU AGAIN

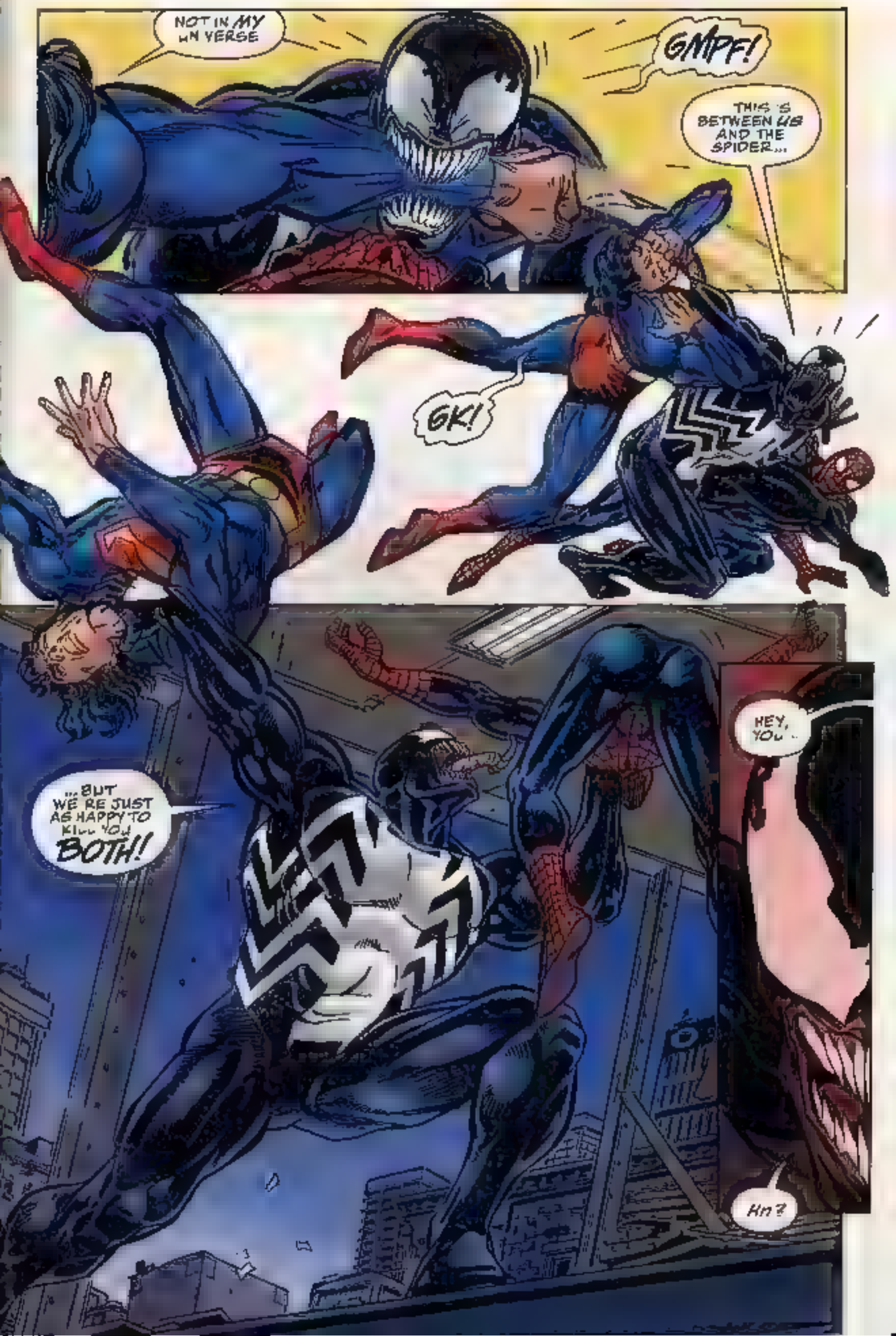
POPPING IN LIKE THAT IS A HANDY TRICK, BUT I THOUGHT WE TOLD YOU TO STAY PUT!

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND! I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN PUT THIS RIGHT!

THERE ISN'T TIME TO EXPLAIN EVERYTHING, BUT I'M THE ACCESS! I CAN JUMP FROM YOUR UNIVERSE TO SPIDER-MAN'S BECAUSE IT'S MY DUTY TO KEEP THEM SEPARATE!

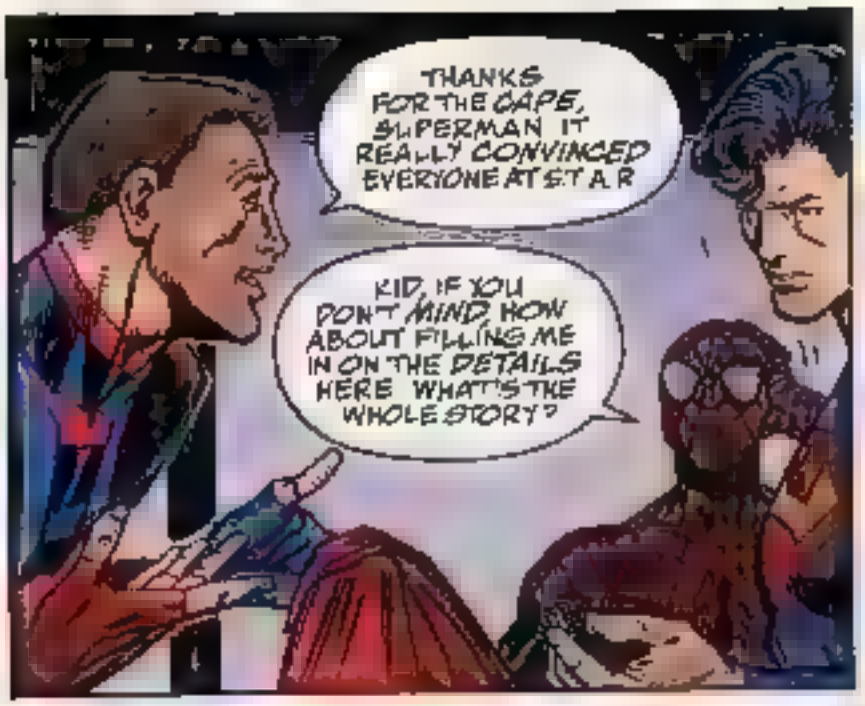
I HAVE TO TAKE VENOM BACK TO THE RIGHT UNIVERSE...

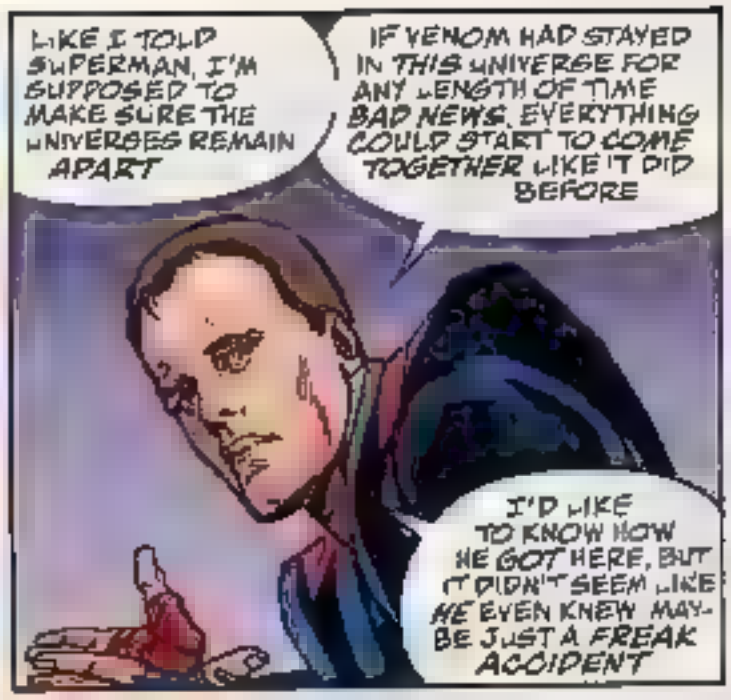

"...AND SPIDER-MAN ALONG WITH H.M. OR THE UNIVERSES COULD START TO MERGE AGAIN. YOU HAVE TO LET ME HELP!"
UFF!
PLEASE!
ALL RIGHT, I BELIEVE YOU
IF YOU WANT TO BE USEFUL, APPARENTLY WE NEED A SONIC GENERATOR TO DEFEAT VENOM
THE MOST LIKELY PLACE TO FIND SOMETHING LIKE THAT IN DEVELOPMENT IS AT A TAR LABS ACROSS TOWN
TELL THEM WHAT YOU NEED AND WHY YOU NEED IT. YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE ANY PROBLEM IF YOU SAY I SENT YOU.
...BUT TAKE THIS FOR PROOF JUST IN CASE. THEN BRING THE DEVICE TO ME.
SPIDER-MAN AND I WILL HANDLE IT FROM THERE. I DON'T WANT YOU TAKING ANY UNNECESSARY RISKS.
WHATEVER YOU SAY, SUPERMAN!
JEEZ EDDIE, YOUR BREATH...!
YOU'RE A DEAD SPIDER!


NOT IN MY UNIVERSE
GMPF!
THIS IS BETWEEN US AND THE SPIDER...
GK!
...BUT WE'RE JUST AS HAPPY TO KILL YOU BOTH!
HEY, YOU...
HM?

...LISTEN TO THIS.
YAAGHH!!
EDDIE?
YOO-HOO?
YOU DON'T LOOK SO GOOD, BIG GUY
...guh...
Duh-Parker... you ratted...
...ratted me ouuuuuh...

HE'S DONE.
WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE THE ONES WITH THE NICK-OF-TIME RESCUES.
I THOUGHT WE AGREED YOU WERE GOING TO TURN THAT OVER TO ME, AND NOT PUT YOURSELF IN THE DANGER ZONE.
WELL, UH YOU GUYS LOOKED KINDA BUSY.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, K.D. YOU DID GREAT.
THANKS...
...BUT VENOM WOULD STILL BE ON THE LOOSE WITHOUT YOU TWO. SUPERMAN MADE SURE HE DIDN'T HURT ANYBODY...
...AND THEN YOU GOT HERE SPIDER-MAN, AND TOLD US HOW TO EXPLOIT HIS WEAKNESS. I JUST DID THE EASY PART
BELIEVE ME, EVEN WITHOUT THE COSTUME, THE GUY WAS NO PICNIC. HE WAS A NEWSPAPER REPORTER, AND YOU KNOW WHAT THEY CAN
BE
LIKE
DON'T BE SO MODEST. I THINK SPIDER-MAN WOULD AGREE.
...EASY'S NOT A WORD THAT COMES TO MIND CONCERNING VENOM
WHAT'S THAT LOOK FOR?
NO REASON

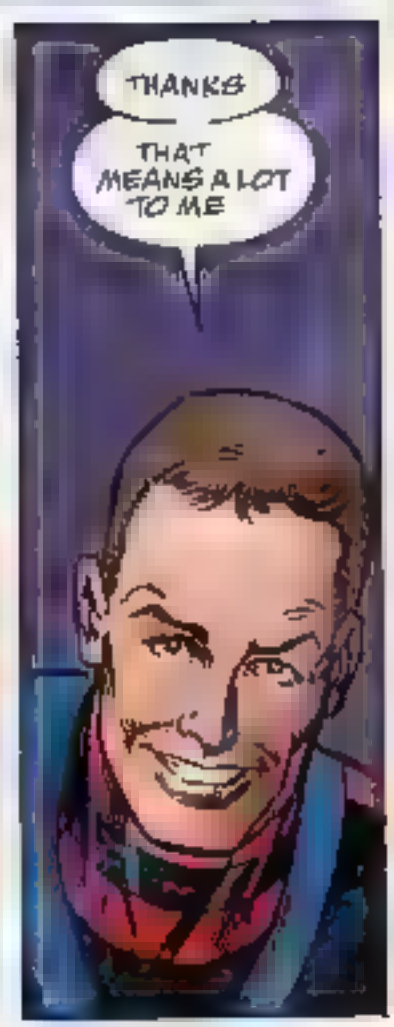

THANKS FOR THE CAPE, SUPERMAN IT REALLY CONVINCED EVERYONE AT S.T.A.R
KID, IF YOU DON'T MIND, HOW ABOUT FILLING ME IN ON THE DETAILS HERE WHAT'S THE WHOLE STORY?

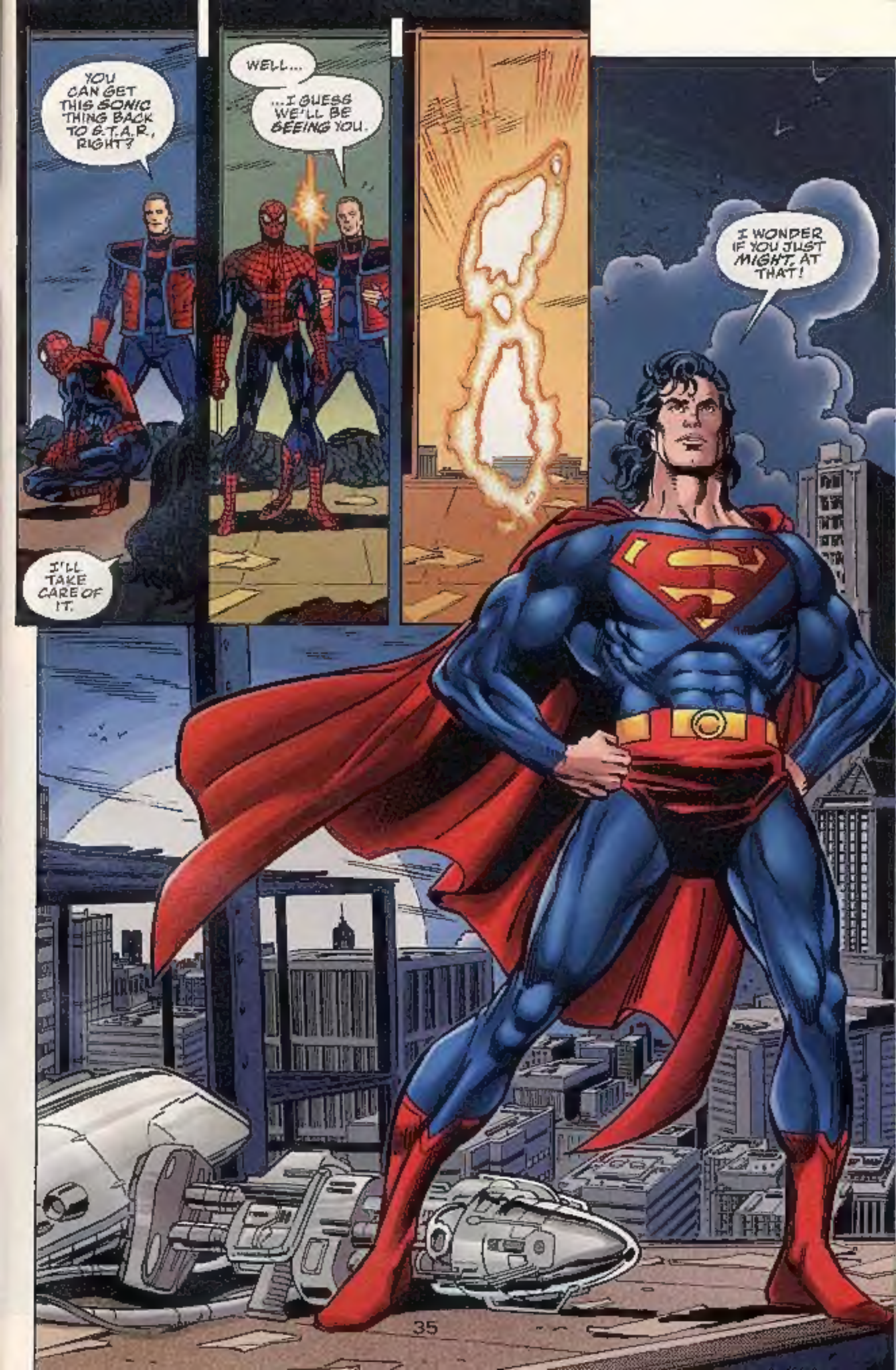

LIKE I TOLD SUPERMAN, I'M SUPPOSED TO MAKE SURE THE UNIVERSES REMAIN APART
IF VENOM HAD STAYED IN THIS UNIVERSE FOR ANY LENGTH OF TIME BAD NEWS. EVERYTHING COULD START TO COME TOGETHER LIKE IT DID BEFORE
I'D LIKE TO KNOW HOW HE GOT HERE, BUT IT DIDN'T SEEM LIKE HE EVEN KNEW MAYBE JUST A FREAK ACCIDENT

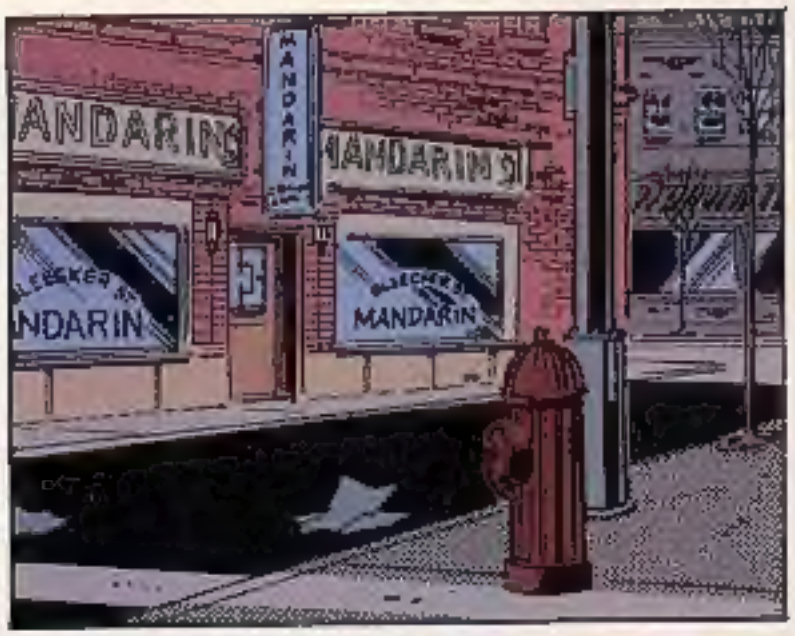
I'D BETTER GET BOTH OF YOU BACK WHERE YOU BELONG. I'M NOT REALLY SURE HOW LONG IS TOO LONG, IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN
NO SENSE IN TEMPTING FATE
THWIP!
THWIP!
JUST LET ME WRAP UP OUR PASSENGER

THANKS FOR THE HELP SPIDER-MAN
GLAD TO
I'M JUST HAPPY IT DIDN'T LEAD TO SOMETHING WELL, YOU KNOW UNIVERSE-SHAKING THERE'S ENOUGH UPHEAVAL IN MY LIFE.

ACCESS, WE COULDN'T HAVE DONE THIS WITHOUT YOU. GOOD TO HAVE YOU ON THE JOB
ANY TIME YOU NEED A HAND, YOU CAN CALL ON SUPERMAN
REALLY?


THANKS
THAT MEANS A LOT TO ME


YOU CAN GET THIS SONIC THING BACK TO S.T.A.R., RIGHT?
I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT.
WELL...
...I GUESS WE'LL BE SEEING YOU.
I WONDER IF YOU JUST MIGHT, AT THAT!



BLEECKER STREET, huh?

I KNOW A GUY WHO LIVES AROUND HERE. WEIRD NEIGHBOR-HOOD...

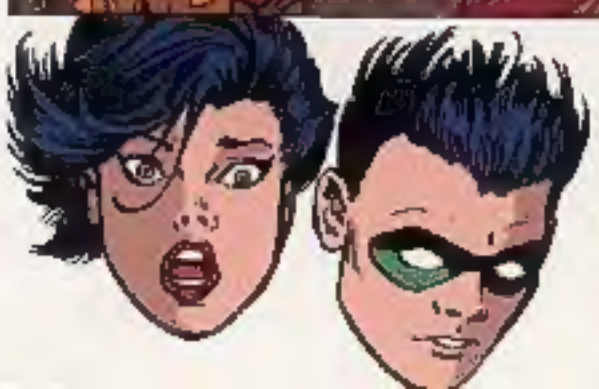
I'D BETTER GET A MOVE ON...
VENOM'S BROKEN THE TRUCE THAT KEPT ME FROM COMING AFTER HIM. I'LL WEB HIM TO THE TOP OF A NICE TALL BUILDING AND CALL THE AUTHORITIES.
THWIP!

TAKE IT EASY, KID.
'BYE.

WOW. I GUESS THAT'S IT.
MY FIRST MISSION OR WHATEVER YOU'D CALL IT. I FEEL LIKE I ACCOMPLISHED SOMETHING. I FINALLY FEEL LIKE I HAVE A DIRECTION.

BUT I'M SATISFIED TO GO BACK TO BEING A NORMAL GUY.
MY BIGGEST CHALLENGE NOW IS CONVINCING MING TO FORGIVE ME FOR RUNNING OUT ON LUNCH.

I'LL TAKE THAT OVER UNIVERSE-SAVING ANY DAY.
STILL, I'D LOVE TO KNOW WHY IT ALL HAPPENED. I MEAN, HOW DID VENOM EVEN GET THERE?
Ah, FORGET IT, AXEL. WHY WORRY?



NEXT: ROBIN & JUBILEE: TWO HEROES, TWO UNIVERSES, TWO-FACE!